

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7090

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize Jeff Welch on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Welch is one such estimable person who has served as the director of the Knoxville-Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) since 1985 and is taking his well-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished thirty-eight-year career with Knoxville-Knox County Planning, Mr. Welch has provided solid leadership and thoughtful guidance for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the TPO is staffed by planners within Knoxville-Knox County Planning and coordinates a comprehensive transportation planning process for several cities and counties in the Knoxville metropolitan area; as director, Jeff Welch has overseen the preparation of several regional mobility plans and regional transit studies, participated in countless corridor and small area studies, and played an integral role in the three-year Plan East Tennessee process; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Welch holds a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, a Master of Science-Engineering degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Welch began his career in public service in Dubuque, Iowa, followed by Sioux Falls, South Dakota; during his nearly forty-year tenure with Knoxville-Knox County Planning, he has worked in a variety of capacities while maintaining the title of TPO director and serving in other leadership roles, including executive, deputy, and interim director of Planning; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional, Mr. Welch is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and a graduate of Leadership Knoxville and East Tennessee Regional Leadership; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, Jeff Welch enjoys the love and support he shares with his wife, Linda Welch, and their two daughters, Kendra and Christa; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious tenure as director, Mr. Welch has carried out his responsibilities with diligence and integrity; his remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, a strong advocate for the citizens of this State, Jeff Welch has compiled a singular record of success during his exemplary public service career, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Jeff Welch for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as director of the Knoxville-Regional Transportation Planning Organization and extend to him our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.